THE DRAGONET PROPHECY REREAD | Chapters 22-23 | Oncilla

phoenixdragon1690

Hello and welcome back to the TDP reread! Sorry it's late; I legitimately didn't remember it was supposed to happen until like 5:00pm yesterday. Hey, we're in the last third of the reread now!

This reread may contain SPOILERS for any and all Wings of Fire books. If you have not finished the series, read ahead at your own peril.

SUMMARY
Chapter 22: Scarlet and Burn drag the DoD into the palace, kick Peril out of her room, and throw them in there. The two queens discuss the fate of the dragonets, and then Scarlet blocks them in with a wall of burning coal and leaves.The dragonets reunite happily, and then Peril appears and they discuss escape plans as Tsunami glares at Peril and Clay is completely oblivious to her huge crush on him.

Chapter 23: Clever Starflight realizes that the fire doesn't hurt Peril, so she can move the rocks. As Peril leads them to a hiding place, Clay accidentally makes her mad by being even more oblivious. Sneaking past Scarlet's feasting area, the dragonets notice Sunny, but they can't go get her yet. Peril leads the dragonets to a hidden cave, but before they can get to it, Scarlet and her soldiers show up. Clay pushes Peril toward the cave, and everyone is shocked that he touched her, but that doesn't last long because Scarlet traps them, thanking Peril.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
"Peril's tail lashed furiously. A moment passed, and then she stormed toward the door. athe two queens had to scurry out of her path in a very undignified way, and Clay saw a few of the SkyWing guards hiding smiles."

Snicker

THE DRAGONETS
Poor sweet, oblivious Clay. Really, Tsunami, you should have just explained it to him so he'd stop missing everything.

On the other talon, he did do the thing with the song, which Starflight and Tsunami are suitably impressed by.

THE QUEENS
Yeah, we need these sections.

I love how pragmatic Burn is in contrast with frivolous Scarlet. It's probably weird, seeing as how she wants to murder our protagonists, but there are several moments throughout these chapters and the series where I really do sympathise with Burn.

"Clay was starting to hate the word thrilling."

OTHER DRAGONS
"No wonder Kestrel always hated us. I bet the Talons of Peace thought she'd want to be on dragonet-minding duty after what she'd lost. But we just reminded her of her dead children every day."

Which, by the way, is no excuse for being abusive. But it *is* an insight into Kestrel's character.

WORLDBUILDING
Coal is apparently not well-known to dragons.

Wait, "floating globes full of fire"?

Scavengers!

Honestly, you should probably go read the description of the party scene in chapter 23; it's loaded with interesting tidbits.

BIOLOGY AND CULTURE
From the aforementioned party scene: "Most of the SkyWings were wearing gold or copper or precious jewels that sparkled in the firelight. The SandWing desert dragons looked rough and common next to them, and many of them stood awkwardly as if they would rather be charging into battle than making polite conversation at a party."
Same tho, SandWings.

Actually, that quote presents an interesting contrast between Burn and Scarlet: Scarlet chooses fancy noblemen for her elites, and Burn chooses warriors. But this is the wrong section for that, isn't it?

"Burn's tail thumped the floor hard enough to shake the ground below Clay's feet."

BODY LANGUAGE + NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION:
"He saw the queen's eyes dart to the empty wall [where her portrait had been], and more smoke curled from her nose."

Tail-lashing and tongue-flicking, yay.

COMMENTARY
These chapters aren't quite as meaningful as last week, but I do like them quite a bit. Sneaking around! SkyWing party!

See you next week, back in jail and then back in the arena.

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Such is the path of a dreamer: I find my way by moonlight.

~Oncilla~

Queen of Non Sequitur, Bookwyrms, Pangolins, and Bones

Trash Squad, Werewolf, GASTER FOLLOWER

Writer, roleplayer, nerd

WoFMBer Dec. 2014-Mar. 2019

azuredragon3714

FIRST

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~Quartz~

I changed my mind I'm staying

That one person who always gives you the opposite of help.

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That took a while to go through

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You did a good job on this one! Sorry, my "popular post, must be first" instincts kicked in..

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~Quartz~

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cleverdragon364

Clay noticed that the full-length portrait of the queen was gone from the wall. A pile of ashes smoldered on the floor under the spot where it had been.
Tui: BAM. That's right, Queen Scarlet. This is what happens when you make Peril angry (and also one example of how fun it is to write about teenagers who can set things on fire when they get mad.)

"Why don't you kill them?" Burn asked.
Tui: See, this is Burn's straightforward approach to the problem. No flim-flamming around that might allow them to get rescued or escape. From the first moment when she throws the SkyWing egg off the cliff, we know that she's brutally efficient, and therefore (I hope) extra-scary.

"If we kill the dragonets now, out of sight, it does us no good. Even if we hang their bodies from the palace walls, no one will believe it's them."
Tui: To be fair, this is a pretty good point, too. A smart super-villain knows you can't just kill off a hero; you have to crush everyone's belief in him or her, too.

Tsunami pushed [Clay] into the pool.
Tui: In an echo of their first scene, where she dragged him into the river...Tsunami trying to solve all problems with (a) water and (b) bossiness, as usual.

Tsunami gave Clay a sharp look he didn't understand.
Tui: I kind of love writing about oblivious boys, having dealt with many of them in my life (all of them lovely and hilarious too)...I like having Tsunami instantly spot Peril's crush on Clay, whereas he quite possibly would never notice it ever.

"Sunny is like a little sister to us. To all of us."
Tui: Girl code: so she's not a threat to your crush on Clay! He only likes her like a sister! This entire interaction is basically Tsunami reading Peril like an unrolled scroll, and trying to say all the right things even while Clay is saying all the wrong ones.

When they were all out in the tunnel, Peril rebuilt the wall of fire across the cave entrance.
Tui: One thing I will say about writing a dragon series: I've had to come up with a lot of ways one could trap a dragon...and it isn't that easy!

"We wouldn't leave without our friends," Clay promised. [Peril] scowled.
Tui: Ha ha! Oh, Clay, no no no, not the right thing to say to poor jealous Peril.

"Really?" Peril said. "You'll go straight there? Just the five of you?"
Tui: This, of course, is the real question she's asking, because what he wants him to say is, "come with us!" or "I can't leave you!" And maybe the fact that he doesn't is why she does what she does next...

Most of the SkyWings were wearing gold or copper or precious jewels that sparkled in the firelight. The SandWing desert dragons looked rough and common next to them, and many of them stood awkwardly as if they would rather be charging into battle than making polite conversation at a party.
Tui: I love showing differences like this between the tribes...I believe individual dragons usually don't fit neatly into their tribe stereotypes, but as a group, when you're looking at them, say, in the context of a party, I like that you can learn something about them from differences like this. (I for one wouldn't fit into either of those categories...I don't think I'm good at either charging into battle or polite party conversation! Point me at the gathering of dragons who want to read and talk about books. Starflight, come sit by me.)

Statues of Queen Scarlet in different regal poses were scattered about the floor, some carved from marble, some of gold, some of smooth black rock with rubies for eyes.
Tui: Hee, I also love the idea that Scarlet decorates her castle with images of herself.

Clay saw a SkyWing pause mid-conversation, smash her talons down on a mountain goat, pop it in her mouth, and continue chatting with the SandWing opposite her.
Tui: Who needs servers passing around appetizers when your snacks could just be galloping around underfoot, waiting to be snapped up and eaten?

It made him wonder if scavengers were smarter than they looked.
Tui: One of our first clues about this.

"Hide," [Clay] said, frantically pushing Peril toward the tunnel. "If they find you helping us, the queens will kill you, champion or not."
Tui: I love that his first thought is for her safety...

☆ 2

***Clever,* *A Very Clevery Guy* ❤❤❤**
[exits, pursued by a bear]
bringing you cool good posts: Dec. 2014 - March 2019
appreciating and supporting you: today - forever!!!!

cleverdragon364

These chapters sort of vanished from my mind completely but re-reading them I absolutely adore them and wish we got more of this sort of thing later on in the series (unless, of course, there are chapters like this and they've vanished completely from my mind too.)

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Brutally efficient. That's a good way to put it.

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